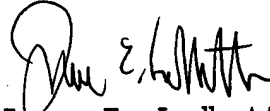


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 15, 16 and 18.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: March 9, 2005

JEL/spp

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